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Report No. 15

Questions 2, 3, 6, 7, 22, 23: Demographic and
Family History

Canada

**ANALYSIS OF THE MARITAL STATUS, FERTILITY AND NUPTIALITY DATA
IN THE NATIONAL CENSUS TEST, 1988 (NCT)**

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- None of the questions relating to six demographic variables (legal marital status, common-law status, fertility, date of first marriage, remarriage, and reasons for the first marital dissolution) included in the NCT appeared problematic; each provided desired data of high quality. It is recommended therefore, that all the six questions should be included in the 1991 Census.
- The response rate to the question on legal marital status was 99%, and data obtained from it do not create any problem of historical comparability.
- The question on common-law status provided 15% more data on common-law unions than that obtained from the conventional procedure utilizing the question on "Relationship to Person 1". The non-response rate to the question was high (14.6%), but can be reduced by deleting the bold heading from the question.
- The fertility question was highly effective in collecting data on the number of children ever born to all women aged 15 years and over, regardless of marital status: 95% of ever-married and 88% of single women responded to the question. Twelve percent of the single women reported having had a child.

- . In response to the question on the date of first marriage, 93% of all ever-married women provided the required information to produce data on age at first marriage.
- . In response to the question on remarriage, 9% of all ever-married women said that they had been married more than once; only 7% did not respond to the question. The question appeared effective in collecting data on marital instability and the blended (reconstituted) family.
- . The question on reasons for first marital dissolution revealed that 24% of the remarriages occurred following widowhood, while 73% following a divorce; only 3% of respondents left the question unanswered.

INTRODUCTION

This paper presents an evaluation of the efficacy of the six demographic questions included in the National Census Test (NCT), of November, 1988. These questions relate to the following variables:

- . Marital status
 - . Legal marital status
 - . Common-law status
- . Fertility
- . Nuptiality
 - . Date of first marriage
 - . Remarriage
 - . Reasons for the first marital dissolution

There are two general issues addressed: (i) the efficacy of the question in collecting the desired data, and; (ii) the reliability and/or validity of the information obtained.

In dealing with these and other issues specific to a particular question, the following methods are employed:

- (1) examination of non-response rates
- (2) historical comparability of data
- (3) comparability with other available estimates
- (4) internal consistency check
- (5) Micro-match between the responses to the question in the NCT and in the re-interview.

MARITAL STATUS

Although marital status has always been a core item in the Canadian census, no distinction was ever made between legal and de facto statuses. The categories of "divorced", "widowed", and "never married" have not posed any conceptual confusion, but the categories "now married" and "separated" have remained somewhat ambiguous. In the 1986 Census, husbands and wives even if they were living apart because of employment, illness, etc., were instructed in the Guide to report themselves to be "now married". Separated persons were those who were separated from their spouse due to causes such as desertion or because they no longer wanted to live together. Legally- or otherwise-separated persons were supposed to report themselves as "separated", although some "not legally separated" persons may have reported themselves to be "now married". Persons in a common-law relationship were instructed to report their legal marital status, although some reported themselves to be "now married".*

To ensure conceptual clarity, the NCT included two questions on marital status:

* Persons living common-law are included with "now married" in the final output.

<p>6. LEGAL MARITAL STATUS</p>	<p>1 <input type="radio"/> Legally married (and not separated)</p> <p>2 <input type="radio"/> Legally married and separated</p> <p>3 <input type="radio"/> Divorced</p> <p>4 <input type="radio"/> Widowed</p> <p>5 <input type="radio"/> Never married (single)</p>
<p>7. COMMON-LAW STATUS Is this person currently living with a common-law partner</p>	<p>6 <input type="radio"/> No</p> <p>7 <input type="radio"/> Yes</p>

Legal Marital Status

Non-response rates to the legal marital status question are too low to doubt the lucidity of the question. As shown in Table 1, the overall non-response rate was only 1.0%, which was lower than that observed in the 1986 Census (1.6%). The rate was high only for those below age 15, which is to be expected since a marital status question may not have appeared relevant to children, and therefore may have been left unanswered.

Three procedures have been used to check the overall reliability of the NCT data: an internal consistency check, historical comparability, and a matching study. Ordinarily, the number of persons reported as "now married" and "separated" should be identical for men and women. But as shown in Table 2, the number of now-married men is higher than that of now-married women, and

the number of separated men is lower than that of separated women. This is not unique to the NCT data, as it has also been observed in previous censuses. As a partial explanation, there may be a certain proportion of married immigrants whose wives have not yet joined them. In addition, there may be a greater tendency among separated men to report themselves as now married. Also, there may be a tendency for unwed mothers to report themselves as "separated" rather than "single" in order to conceal their out-of-wedlock motherhood status.

In terms of historical comparability, no inconsistency is apparent in the NCT for persons in the "now married" and "separated" categories. As shown in Figure 1, the proportions of males and females in all age groups in these categories are in line with those observed in the 1981 and 1986 censuses. Any differences can be explained by demographic changes, such as postponement of legal marriage and increased marital dissolution.

According to the matching study, the legal marital status question does not seem to be problematic. A re-interview survey was conducted for about 3,200 households which were selected from the original sample for the NCT. The sample involved all household members aged 15 years and over. A comparison between the distribution of persons by marital status obtained from the NCT and the re-interview is shown in Table 3. Because of a high non-response rate (12.7%) to the question in the re-interview, it is difficult to draw a meaningful conclusion from the matching study. But when cases with no response were excluded, there was a high degree (98.1%) of agreement between the two data sets. The consistency was highest for the "legally married" category: 99.4% of persons classified as legally married in the NCT were also classified

in the same category in the re-interview. Corresponding figures for the "never married" and "widowed" categories were 98.3 and 95.6%, respectively. Consistency was relatively low, however, for responses in the "separated" (83.6%) and "divorced" (90.0%) categories. Although one may explain this observation by actual short-term changes in the marital status distribution of the population, it is more likely due to misreporting. This is not a problem unique to the NCI; similar findings were reported in previous studies in the U.S.A. (Shryock, et al., 1984:286-287).

Common-law Status

In the previous two censuses, the number of persons living common-law was estimated from a census question on the "Relationship to Person 1". The number derived was known to be underestimated, however, as persons living common-law but not related to Person 1 as a common-law partner could not be classified appropriately. Thus a direct question was included in the NCI in order to collect more complete data on common-law unions. According to this question there were 1.5 million persons aged 15 years and over who were living common-law in Canada at the time of the survey. The corresponding figure obtained from the "Relationship" question was 1.2 million (Table 4). It appears, therefore, that a direct question provides about 250,000 (or 20%) more common-law unions than that obtained from the "Relationship" question.

As mentioned, the difference between the two sets of figures can be also explained by those who may be living common-law, but who are related to Person 1 in some fashion other than as a common-law partner (e.g., son or daughter,

father or mother, room-mate, etc.). Table 5 shows that of those who said they were living common-law in response to the direct question, only 81% ($40.3\% \times 2$) could be identified as a common-law partner according to the "Relationship to Person 1" question. The remaining 19% were comprised of those who reported themselves as husband or wife, son or daughter, room-mate or some other relative or non-relative of Person 1. Also included in this category were certain reference persons (i.e., Person 1), whose spouses did not report themselves as common-law partners.

As expected, the non-response rate to the direct question on common-law partnership was high (14.6%). (It may be noted that this question was not subject to field follow-up.) The rate was quite pronounced for legally-married and widowed persons, many of whom may not have seen the question as being relevant to them (Table 6). Non-response was lower for separated, divorced and never married persons, among whom the propensity to be with a common-law partner was high (22.6%, 31.0% and 14.7%, respectively). The heading "Common-law Status" may have been partially responsible for the high non-response rate, for certain persons may have skipped the question, not finding it applicable to them. In MT-1, there was no heading to this question (it was a part of the marital status question) and the non-response rate was lower.

There is some evidence to suggest that the number of common-law unions obtained from a direct question may be over-estimated (Rae, 1988). In order to evaluate this concern, a sample of NCI respondents was re-interviewed: persons who were not legally married (i.e., separated, divorced, widowed and single)

were asked if they were living with a common-law partner. The non-response rate to this question in the re-interview survey was so high (27.8%) that drawing any meaningful conclusion from the matching study is problematic. However, data presented in Table 7 seem to suggest that there was a net over-estimation of the number of common-law unions in the NCI. Of those persons classified as living common-law in the NCI, only 81.6% were classified in the same category in the re-interview; the remaining 18.4% were either classified as persons not living common-law, or did not respond to the question. However, of those who, in the NCI, were either not reported as common-law partners or who had left the question unanswered, only 0.8% said they were living common-law in the re-interview. Given the small sample size and the high non-response rate to the question, it is difficult to come up with a valid measure of over-estimation.

The quality of the NCI data on common-law unions was further checked by a case-by-case examination of data on persons 15 years of age and over, who said they were living common-law in response to the direct question, but were neither Person 1 nor a common-law partner of Person 1. As shown in Table 8, only 65% of 354 (unweighted sample) such cases were genuine common-law partners. The remaining 35% included those who were either legally married husbands and wives, or were unmarried brothers and sisters or others whose status was difficult to determine. The latter category may have included persons who were actually not living common-law, but erroneously marked their status as common-law, or those who were living common-law but marked also the status of their children as common-law. Also included in this category may have been persons who were genuine common-law partners, but who could not be identified as such because they marked themselves as "legally married" husband

and wife. If one were to exclude these cases from the total number of common-law unions obtained from the direct question, the number would be about 1,412,575, rather than 1,470,961. Thus it is reasonable to conclude that the direct question provides at least 15.5% more data on common-law unions than that obtained from the "Relationship" question.

FERTILITY (Children Ever Born)

A question on the number of children ever born has been included in the decennial censuses of Canada since 1941 (with the exception of 1951). In the previous censuses, this question was asked of ever-married women aged 15 years and over. In light of the fact that a substantial proportion of children are now born before marriage,* the fertility question in the NCI referred to all women aged 15 years and over, regardless of marital status:

<p>22. For WOMEN only: How many children were ever born to this person? (Count all children including those who may have died since birth or who may now be living elsewhere. Do not include stillbirths.)</p>	<p>98 <input type="radio"/> None or <input type="text"/> Number of children</p>
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Analysis of the data obtained from this question centres basically around two issues: (1) to see if the non-response rate to the fertility question

* According to vital statistics, 17.3% of all births in 1986 were to single women whereas the corresponding portion in 1981 was 12.6%.

increases because the question now refers to all women, including those who have never been married, and; (ii) the validity of fertility data for never-married women.

As shown in Table 9, the overall non-response rate to the question was 7.0%, which seems reasonable when compared with the observations of other tests. The non-response rate to a similar question was 7.6% in the MT-1 of 1987, and 8.5% in a national test conducted in 1977.

A relatively high non-response rate to the fertility question is largely accounted for by those who were either single or who had left the question on legal marital status unanswered and who presumably found the question not applicable to them. The non-response rate for ever-married women was only 5.0%. In the non-census situation, a non-response rate as low as this to a question which was not subject to a field follow-up is deemed acceptable. (In the 1981 Census, the corresponding rate was 4.0%). It appears that asking a fertility question to never-married women did not have any adverse effect on the response rate of married women.

Despite a high non-response rate, a very valuable piece of information which can be obtained from the fertility question in the NCT concerns the number of children ever born to single women. As shown in Table 10, 12% of all single women reported having had a child. In other words, there were 235 children ever born to every 1,000 single women aged 15 years and over. The phenomenon was particularly pronounced for those in the 30-44 age-group: 28% reported having had a child, and the mean number was 539 children ever-born per 1,000 single women.

No doubt, a large proportion of births to single women may be accounted for by the fertility of those who may be living or may have lived in a common-law union. But as shown in Table 11, the fertility of single women not living with a common-law partner is of significant magnitude; about 176,000, or 9%, reported having given birth to a child, and the mean number of children ever born to them was 169 per 1,000.

It is difficult to establish the validity of these data. Even measuring reliability is not easy because no comparable data are available from other sources. However, data for white women in the U.S. presented in Table 10 seem to suggest that fertility rates derived from the NCT fall within an acceptable range.

NUPTIALITY

Since 1941, a question concerning age at first marriage has been accompanying the fertility question. In light of the changing marriage and family patterns, the NCT included along with the conventional question on the date of first marriage, two more questions concerning marital instability:

23. For ALL PERSONS who are married or have ever been married: (a) What was the date of this person's first marriage?	Month Year <table border="1" data-bbox="634 997 782 1041"><tr><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>9</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>			1	9		
		1	9				
(b) Has this person been married more than once?	1 <input type="radio"/> No - Skip to Question 24 2 <input type="radio"/> Yes, more than once						
(c) If married more than once - Did this person's first marriage end because of the death of the husband or wife?	3 <input type="radio"/> No 4 <input type="radio"/> Yes						

Date of First Marriage

The question on the date of first marriage was only a slightly modified version of the 1981 question; all ever-married persons aged 15 years and over were asked to report the month and year of their first marriage. Besides being used for the analysis of nuptiality patterns, marital and pre-marital fertility, and birth intervals, the date of first marriage has remained the single most important variable for deriving a measure of the blended (reconstituted) family. (If the date of first marriage for both husband and wife is the same, then the couple has married only once; otherwise one partner has been married more than once. However, because the family assignment programme has not been developed for the NCT, it is not possible to present statistics on the blended family.)

As shown in Table 12, 91% of the respondents provided both month and year of first marriage, and an additional 2% provided the year but not the month. Thus, only 7% of the ever-married persons did not provide information appropriate to derive their age at first marriage. In MT-1, the corresponding proportion was 11%, and in the 1981 Census it was 7%.* Clearly, the NCT question was not problematic.

* It is to be noted that the 1981 Guide to the census questionnaire requested persons in common-law unions who had never married officially to "enter the month and year in which the current common-law relationship was established."

Remarriage

A question on remarriage was never before included in a Census of Canada. In view of the fact that an increasing proportion of all marriages now include at least one previously-married partner*, and that a growing proportion of children are spending part of their lives in families in which one or both parents are remarried, it was regarded appropriate to have a question on remarriage included in the census. Thus in the NCI, all persons who were married or had ever been married were asked if they had been married more than once.

In response to this question, 84% of all ever-married persons said that they had married once only, 9% said they had married more than once, and only 7% did not respond.** As shown in Table 13, these rates vary markedly by marital status. Persons in unstable marital status (separated, divorced and widowed) were more likely than those in a stable (legally married and not separated) state to have married more than once. Their non-response rate to the question was also higher.

This question provided very valuable information on marriage and the family, which was not available before. It helps to measure four types of families, in terms of their stability:

* According to vital statistics, 30% of all marriages in 1985 included at least one previously-married partner, up from 23% in 1976.

** In MI-1, the corresponding figures were 82.6%, 8.2%, and 9.2%, respectively.

- (i) Stable. Couples married once, who are in a married state.
- (ii) Dissolved. Couples married once, but who are now in a divorced, separated or widowed state.
- (iii) Blended. Couples married more than once, who are living in a reconstituted family.
- (iv) Unstable. Couples married more than once, but who are now in a divorced, separated or widowed state.

The blended family can be further classified into three categories:

- (a) Husband married once, wife remarried.
- (b) Wife married once, husband remarried.
- (c) Both husband and wife remarried.

Reason for first marital dissolution

In view of the changing relative importance of divorce and widowhood as factors for marital dissolution, respondents who had been married more than once were asked to state how their first marriage ended.

As shown in Table 14, some persons (2%) did not follow the instruction and answered this question even though they were married only once. However, of those who had been married more than once, 97% answered the question (24% indicated widowhood whereas 73% indicated divorce or other factors as reasons for the first marital dissolution) while only 3% left the question unanswered. Clearly, this simple and straightforward question did not pose any marked response problems.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

1. Legal marital status: Asking a question on legal marital status is not problematic. The response rate to the question was very high (99.0%), and data obtained from it are historically comparable. It is recommended that the NCT question should be included in the 1991 Census.
2. Common-law status: A direct question provides at least 15% more data on common-law unions than that obtained from the conventional procedure utilizing the question on "Relationship to Person 1". These data are of high quality. The non-response rate to this question is high (14.6%), but can be reduced by deleting the bold heading COMMON-LAW STATUS from the question. Thus it is recommended that a direct question on common-law status should be included - though without a heading - in the 1991 Census. If for any reason its inclusion in the 2A questionnaire is difficult, then it could be included in the 2B questionnaire.
3. Fertility (number of children ever born): The NCT question on the number of children ever born, which was asked to all women aged 15 years and over regardless of marital status, is recommended for inclusion in the 1991 Census. In light of the fact that 95.0% of all ever-married, that 88.5% of single women responded to the question, and that 12.1% of the single women reported having had a child, this question does not seem to be problematic.

4. Date of first marriage. The NCI question was a slightly modified version of the 1981 Census question on the date of first marriage. The result was promising, in that only 7% of respondents did not provide the appropriate information required to calculate their age at first marriage. It is recommended that the question should be included in the 1991 Census.

5. Remarriage. Persons who were married, or who had ever been married, were also asked to report if they had been married more than once. Only 7% of respondents did not answer this question; the remaining 84.2% indicated that they had been married only once whereas 8.7% responded that they had been married more than once. Given its utility in collecting data on marital instability and the blended family, and its reasonably high response rate, its inclusion in the 1991 Census is recommended.

6. Reason for first marital dissolution. This question was designed to be answered by those who had been married more than once. The NCI revealed that 24% of the remarriages occurred following widowhood and that 73% followed a divorce. The non-response rate was only 3%. It is recommended that this short, simple and less problematic question should be included in the 1991 Census.

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Table 1

Distribution of Persons by Age and Legal Marital Status

Age Group	Legally Married (and not Separated)	Legally Married and Separated	Divorced	Widowed	Never Married	No Response	Total	N
0-14	0.4 ^c	a	a	a	97.0	2.4	100.0	5,363,520
15-24	10.2	0.5	0.4 ^b	a	87.8	1.0	100.0	3,890,586
25-34	56.7	2.9	5.4	0.2 ^b	34.2	0.5	100.0	4,616,459
35-44	74.3	4.6	9.3	0.9	10.5	0.5 ^c	100.0	3,884,365
45-54	79.0	4.2	7.8	3.0	5.8	0.3 ^b	100.0	2,648,948
55-64	75.9	3.1	5.2	9.8	5.5	0.5 ^b	100.0	2,322,472
65-74	63.4	2.0	3.2	25.2	7.3	0.9 ^c	100.0	1,727,749
75+	42.5	1.1 ^b	0.9 ^b	47.9	6.5	1.0 ^b	100.0	949,444
Total	44.4	2.2	4.0	4.8	43.6	1.0	100.0	25,403,542

a. Not for release (C.V. > 33.3%)

b. Confidential (C.V. - 25.1% - 33.3%)

c. Qualified estimate (C.V. = 16.6% - 25.0%)

Table 2

Number of Married and Separated Persons by Sex, Canada, 1981, 1986 and 1988

	Now Married		Sex Ratio	Separated		
	Male	Female		Male	Female	Sex Ratio
1981	5,748,490	5,730,225	1.0032	207,805	262,650	.7912
1986	6,023,325	6,010,340	1.0022	225,795	291,740	.7740
1988*	5,687,428	5,589,090	1.0176	260,797	303,859	.8583

* Legally married only. Data for previous years included also persons living common-law.

Table 3

Distribution of Perspms 15 Years and Over by Legal Marital Status
as Reported in the NCT and the Re-interview

Re-interview	NCT						No Response
	Legally Married	Separated	Divorced	Widowed	Never Married	Total	
Legally married	2,806 (99.4)	4	5	9	15	2,839	6
Separated	6	87 (83.6)	4	-	-	97	-
Divorced	1	10	188 (90.0)	2	5	206	1
Widowed	2	-	3	300 (96.5)	1	306	-
Never married	9	3	9	-	1,181 (98.3)	1,202	7
Total	2,824 (100.0)	104 (100.0)	209 (100.0)	311 (100.0)	1,202 (100.0)	4,650	14
No Response	327	28	25	31	257	668	10
Grand Total	3,151	132	234	342	1,459	5,318	24

Table 4

Persons Living in Common-law Unions

	1986 Census as per "Relationship" Question	NCT 1988	
		As per "Relationship" Question	As per Direct-Common-Law Question
Total	N.A.	1,227,590	1,492,295
15 Years and over	973,800	1,223,464	1,470,961
As % of population 15+	4.89	6.11	7.34

Table 5

Distribution of Persons 15 Years and Over by Response to
Questions on Relationship to Person 1 and Common-law Partnership

Relationship to Person 1	Whether Living Common-law				
	No	Yes	No Response	Total	N
Person 1	77.8	7.5 (48.5)	14.7	100.0	9,537,620
Husband/Wife	83.1	1.3 (4.9)	15.6	100.0	5,496,163
Common-law Partner	1.4 ^b	96.8 (40.3)	1.8 ^b	100.0	611,732
Son/Daughter	84.1	0.8 ^c (1.8) ^c	15.1	100.0	3,140,641
Other Relative	72.3	19.0 (1.4)	8.6	100.0	104,960
Room-mate	87.8	a	10.0	100.0	335,734
All Others	81.2	4.4 ^b (2.6) ^b	14.4 ^c	100.0	741,964
No Response	42.0	a	48.0	100.0	71,207
Total	78.0	7.3 (100.0)	14.6	100.0	20,040,022

a. same as in Table 1

b. same as in Table 1

c. same as in Table 1

Table 6

Distribution of Persons 15 Years and Over by Response
to Questions on Marital Status and Common-law Partnership

Legal Marital Status	Whether Living with a Common-law Partner				N
	No	Yes	No Response	Total	
Legally Married (and not Separated)	83.5	1.0	15.5	100.0	11,256,217
Legally Married and Separated	68.4	22.6	8.9	100.0	559,434
Divorced	60.6	31.0	8.4	100.0	1,015,186
Widowed	74.4	3.4	22.2	100.0	1,209,174
Never Married (Single)	73.6	14.7	11.3	100.0	5,872,513
No Response	16.0 ^c	13.0 ^c	70.9	100.0	127,498
Total	78.0	7.3	14.6	100.0	20,040,022

c. Same as in Table 1

Table 7

Distribution of Persons by Responses to the Question on
Common-law Partnership in NCT and Re-interview Survey

Re-interview	NCT		
	Living with a common-law partner	Not living with a common-law partner and no response	Total
Living with a common-law partner	252 (81.6)	18 (0.8)	270 (10.8)
Not living with a common-law partner	10 (3.2)	1,522 (69.6)	1,53 (61.4)
Non-response	47 (15.2)	648 (29.6)	695 (27.8)
Total	309 (100.0)	2,188 (100.0)	2,497 (100.0)

Table 8

Persons 15 Years and Over, Who Said to be Living Common-law According to
the Direct Question but Were Neither Person 1 nor
Common-law Partner of Person 1

	Number	Percent
A common-law partner	229	64.7
Not a common-law partner	84	23.7
Husband/wife of Person 1	19	5.4
Uncertain	22	6.2
Total	354	100.0

Table 9

Distribution of Women 15 Years and Over by Response to
Questions on Fertility and Marital Status

Legal Marital Status	Number of Children Ever Born				N ('000)
	None	1 or More	No Response	Total	
Legally Married (and not Separated)	13.4	81.6	5.0	100.0	5,578.2
Legally Married and Separated	11.1	82.5	6.4 ^c	100.0	301.5
Divorced	16.3	79.6	4.1 ^c	100.0	601.7
Widowed	10.2	84.8	5.0	100.0	999.1
All Ever Married	13.1	81.9	5.0	100.0	7,480.5
Never Married (Single)	76.4	12.1	11.5	100.0	2,696.4
No Response	24.0 ^c	26.9	49.1	100.0	65.6
Total	29.8	63.2	7.0	100.0	10,242.6

c. same as in Table 1

Table 10

Distribution of Never Married Women by Age Group and
Number of Children Ever Born and Mean Number of Children Ever Born
per 1,000 Never Married Women

Age Group	Number of children ever born			Invalid and non-response	Total number of never married women ^d	Total number of children ever born ^d	Mean number of children ever born per 1,000 women	
	0	1	2+				NCT	U.S. Whites, 1987 ^e
15-19	79.5	2.0	a	18.0	873,231	48,003	67	56 ^f
20-24	80.0	7.9	2.1 ^c	10.0	735,877	93,525	141	153
25-29	70.4	13.1	8.5	8.1	427,031	145,855	372	280
30-44	65.6	15.2	12.9	6.3 ^c	403,480	203,536	539	331
45+	82.7	4.2 ^b	5.0 ^b	8.1 ^c	256,831	69,220	293	N.A.
Total	76.4	7.5	4.5	11.5	2,696,450	560,137	235	N.A.

a. Same as in Table 1

b. Same as in Table 1

c. Same as in Table 1

d. Based on valid responses only. Valid here means women who had given birth to less than 20 children.

e. Current Population Reports series P-20, No. 427, Table 1

f. 18-19 years.

Table 11

Distribution of Never Married Women by Number of Children Ever Born
and Common-law Status

Common-law Status	None	One or More	Invalid and Non- response	\bar{X} Number of Children Ever Born per 1,000 Women	N ('000)
Living common-law	64.2	30.0	5.8 ^c	518	435.6
Not living common-law	80.8	8.9	10.3	169	1,982.5
No Response	64.3	6.6 ^c	29.1	238	278.4
Total	76.4	12.1	11.5	235	2,696.4

c. Same as in Table 1.

Table 12

Distribution of Persons by Response to Questions on
the Date of First Marriage and Marital Status

Legal Marital Status	Response to the Date of First Marriage				Total*
	Total Non- Response	Month Given, Year Not Given	Year Given, Month Not Given	Both Year and Month Given	
Legally Married (and not Separated)	5.8	0.1 ^b	1.6	92.3	100.0
Legally Married and Separated	13.0	a	4.0 ^c	82.7	100.0
Divorced	10.5	a	3.5	85.6	100.0
Widowed	10.1	a	4.2	85.0	100.0
All Ever Married	6.8	0.2 ^c	2.0	90.8	100.0
Never Married (Single)	99.5	a	a	0.3	100.0
No Response	88.6	-	a	9.4 ^c	100.0
Total	48.1	0.1	1.2	50.5	100.0

* Includes a very small proportion of invalid codes.

a. Same as in Table 1

b. Same as in Table 1

c. Same as in Table 1

Table 13

Distribution of Persons 15 Years and Over by Marital Status and
Number of Times Married

Legal Marital Status	Number of Times Married			Total
	Once	More than Once	No Response	
Legally Married (and not Separated)	85.2	8.3	6.5	100.0
Legally Married and Separated	76.3	13.8	9.9	100.0
Divorced	81.2	9.7	9.1	100.0
Widowed	80.8	9.3	9.9	100.0
All Ever Married	84.2	8.7	7.1	100.0
Never Married (Single)	11.6	0.0	88.4	100.0
No Response	24.0	a	74.6	100.0
Total	62.5	6.1	31.4	100.0

a. Same as in Table 1.

Table 14

Distribution of Persons by Number of Times Married and
Reason for First Marital Dissolution

Number of Times Married	Reason for First Marital Dissolution			TOTAL
	Widowhood	Divorce and All Other Reasons	No Response	
Once	0.2 ^c	2.0	97.8	100.0
More than once	23.9	72.9	3.1	100.0
No response	a	0.8	99.1	100.0

a. Same as in Table 1

c. Same as in Table 1

FIGURE 1 PROPORTION OF (LEGALLY) MARRIED
AND SEPARATED MALES BY AGE GROUP
1981, 1986 AND 1988 (NCT)

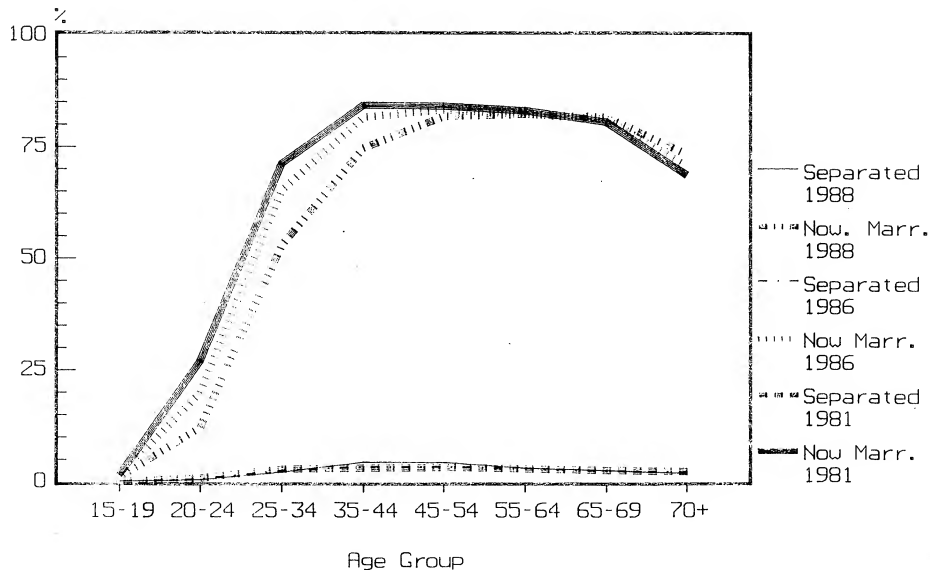
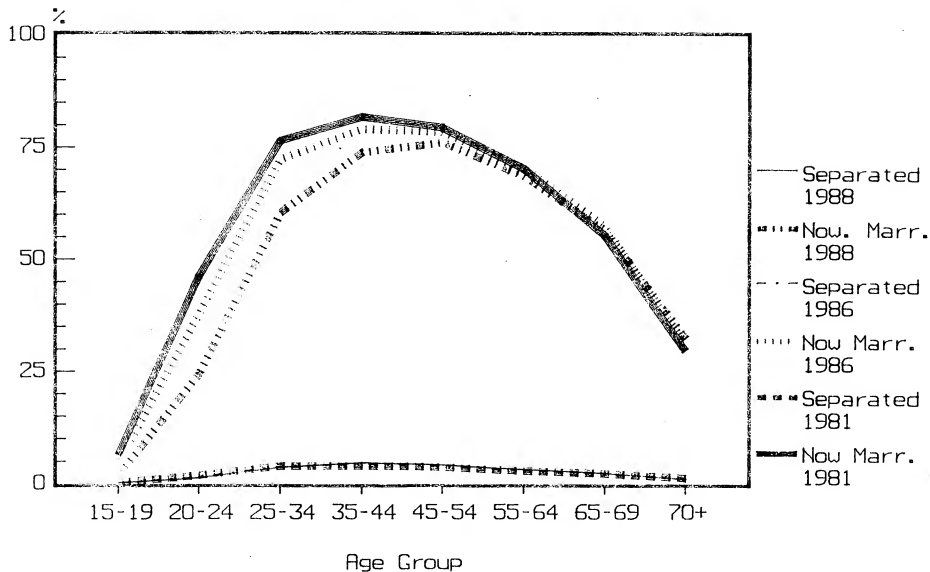


FIGURE 1 PROPORTION OF (LEGALLY) MARRIED
AND SEPARATED FEMALES BY AGE GROUP
1981, 1986 AND 1988 (NCT)



c. 2

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